NORTHERN PACIFIC REGION

A source of energy where natural beauty and quality of life converge toward sustainable progress
NORTHERN PACIFIC
A Region of Costa Rica outside the Greater Metropolitan Area

**PROVINCE**
Guanacaste

**11 CANTONS**
- Liberia
- Nicoya
- Santa Cruz
- Bagaces
- Carrillo
- Cañas
- Abangares
- Tilarán
- Nandayure
- La Cruz
- Hojancha

**POPULATION**
399,359

**AREA**
10,140 Km²

The region is home to the second most important airport in the country, Guanacaste Airport, in Liberia

47 MILES (77 km) from the Peñas Blancas border post

83 MILES (134 km) from Puerto Caldera on the Central Pacific coast

124 MILES (199 km) from Costa Rica’s main international airport, Juan Santamaria, in Alajuela

Source: MIDEPLAN, 2018
Why Invest in Northern Pacific?

01 Gateway to Central America: proximity to the northern border enhances the logistics and commercial exchange between the region and the Central American market

02 International connection infrastructure: location of the second most important airport in Costa Rica, Daniel Oduber Quirós International Airport, which connects with strategic cities in Europe, North America, and Latin America

03 Leader in renewable generation: energy production from five renewable sources: water, wind, biomass, geothermal, and solar, as well as green hydrogen

04 Tourist destination par excellence: home to one of the world’s 5 blue zones. Enjoy natural attractions on prestigious beaches and volcanoes, activities such as diving, surfing or just relaxing in exclusive resorts and retreat areas.

05 Customer service and technology development: proven experience in corporate services and software development for global clients. Its co-working spaces are a magnet for digital nomads interested in a “Silicon beach” lifestyle.

06 Engine of R&D initiatives: clinical trial laboratories, aerospace technology with research in rocket plasma propulsion, and the use of hydrogen for clean energy generation

07 Food industry and biomanufacturing: leader in the development of aloe for medical and pharmaceutical use, and experience in the production of agricultural products such as sugar cane, melon, mango, and watermelon, as well as tilapia farming

Source: CINDE, MEIC 2020, PROCOMER 2020,
Northern Pacific
A source of energy where natural beauty and quality of life converge toward sustainable progress

**PROSPERITY**
Strategic location and air connectivity as a tourism hub, enhancing links with global value chains, corporate services, software development, and scientific research

**PEOPLE**
Certified, with technical and research skills for agribusiness, technology development, customer service and tourism

**PLANET**
Blue Zone of the planet that protects 13% of its territory in 5 National Parks and houses a World Heritage Site
Proven Track Record

National and multinational companies generating value for the region:
Air infrastructure: Guanacaste Airport

- **Conexión Internacional:** Recibe vuelos internacionales provenientes de ciudades en Estados Unidos, Centroamérica y Europa

- **Principales aerolíneas:**
  - Air Canada
  - Air Transat
  - Alaska Airlines
  - Delta
  - KLM
  - Sunwing
  - TUI
  - Copa Airlines
  - JetBlue
  - American Airlines
  - Southwest
  - WestJet
  - United
  - Sun Country Airlines

- **Principales países y ciudades destino:**
  
  **Europe:**
  - Amsterdam, Netherlands

  **Canada:**
  - Toronto
  - Montreal
  - Calgary
  - Vancouver

  **United States:**
  - Los Angeles
  - Charlotte
  - Dallas
  - Miami
  - New York
  - Atlanta
  - Chicago
  - Denver
  - Houston
  - San Francisco


Image: [https://lirc.com/destinos/](https://lirc.com/destinos/)
Air infrastructure: Guanacaste Airport

Arrival of international tourists

- Arrival of 766,303 passengers between August 2020 and July 2021
- As of June 2021, the airport received the same number of passengers as in June 2019, thus reaching pre-pandemic levels

International recognition

The Guanacaste Airport has been recognized by Airports Council International among the “Best Airports by Size and Region” for three years in a row

Source: ICT, 2021 - Airports Council International, 2021
**Air infrastructure:** Guanacaste Airport

**Characteristics of the freight terminal:**

- **Operated by Rex Cargo**
- **Handling capacity:** one million kilos of cargo per month
- **Cargo reception area:** 538 m²
- **3 loading and unloading bays**
- **Electronic scale** with capacity of 2000 kg
- **Sterile area:** 591 m²
- 153 m² cold room
- **Bearing system** for load transfer
- **Vehicles with trailers** for transportation to or from the aircraft and an X-ray safety system

Road infrastructure: Land connectivity

The region connects:

• To the North: with a Central American market of 60 million inhabitants
• To the Pacific port: with the United States west coast and Asian destinations

Infrastructure investments

1. Peñas Blancas border post\[^a^/\]
   - IDB Funds: USD 100 million
   - Located 47 miles (77 km) or 1 hour from Liberia

2. Route 1 - North Inter-American Highway:
   **Barranca - Limonal**
   - IDB Funds: USD 182 million
   - Distance: 31 miles (50.3 km) - construction improvements

   **Limonal - Cañas:**
   - IDB-MOPT Funds: USD 90 million
   - Distance: 13 miles (20.8 km) including expansion to 4 lanes - construction improvements

a/: Part of the Program to modernize infrastructure, equipment and land border systems in Peñas Blancas, Las Tablillas, Paso Canoas, Sabalito, and Sixaola

Source: Presidency, 2021: https://www.presidencia.go.cr/comunicados/2021/01/en-firme-adjudicacion-de-diseno-arquitectonico-del-centro-de-control-fronterizo-de-peonas-blancas-y-las-tablillas/2/
CONAVI, 2016 and Lanamme. 2020
CEMOSA, Engineering and Control: https://www.cemosa.es/continua-la-ampliacion-de-la-carretera-interamericana-entre-limonal-y-cañas-costa-rica/
Attractive Tax Incentives

Free Trade Zone Regime

Incentives and benefits granted by Costa Rica to companies making new investments in the country, pursuant to Law No. 7210

Incentives for investments outside the Greater Metropolitan Area

The country grants differentiated tax incentives to companies established outside the Greater Metropolitan Area
Free Trade Zones Parks

**SOLARIUM**

**LIBERIA**

**Area:** 1,000,000 m²

**Characteristics:**
- Has environmental viability
- Located in front of the Daniel Oduber Airport

**Key customers:** The Coca Cola Company, SYKES, Newrest, Hilton Garden Inn Liberia Airport, Invenio, PriceSmart, Cargill, GuanaWork, others.


**EL VIEJO**

**CARRILLO**

**Area:** 24,000 m²

**Characteristics:**
- Located next to the El Viejo Sugar Cane Mill
- Offers support in the fields of engineering, low-cost energy, and transportation to employees of the area
- 30 km from the Daniel Oduber Airport

**Key customers:** Leo Labs

Free Trade Zones Parks

CAÑAS

Area: 130 hectares, including the facilities of INVENIO University

Characteristics:
- 7 km from the road to Tilarán
- Operates under an energy efficiency model using renewable energies
- The Continuum Datacenter is located under free trade zone status. Its services include installation, cloud services, and business continuity; hosting and ease of payment with fintech

LIBERIA

Area: 830,000 m²

Characteristics:
- Mixed-use: residential, hotel, manufacturing, and corporate services
- Located 5 minutes from the Daniel Oduber Airport
- Power redundancy
- Possibility to generate power using solar energy

Prosperity

Sectors with investment potential in the NORTHERN PACIFIC REGION

Invest with purpose

- Agribusiness and food industry
- Light manufacturing and Biomanufacturing
- Research and Development
- Corporate services and digital technologies
- Tourism Infrastructure
**Agribusiness: exports**

The Northern Pacific is a leader in the production of agricultural products such as melon, mango, and watermelon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main exported products (2021):</th>
<th>Main export destinations (2021):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Melon</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 17.4 million</td>
<td><strong>The Netherlands</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 14.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fresh watermelon</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 16.5 million</td>
<td><strong>USA</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 11.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mango</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 5.5 million</td>
<td><strong>United Kingdom</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 8.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Broken rice</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 4.5 million</td>
<td><strong>Belgium</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 2.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mucilage and thickening agents from the carob tree or its seed</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 2.7 million</td>
<td><strong>El Salvador</strong>&lt;br&gt;USD 2.2 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 products exported to 28 destinations

* Exported value

Source: CINDE, based on data from PROCOMER, 2022
Agribusiness: production

Main agricultural products harvested in the region:

**Traditional:** rice, beans, corn, coffee

**Non-traditional:** aloe, ginger, moringa, guava, pepper, and mango

**LIBERIA:**
- Rice, mango, melon, and sugar cane

**CARRILLO:**
- Melon and sugar cane

**CAÑAS:**
- Sugar cane, watermelon, and mango

**BAGACES:**
- Rice and sheep farming

**NANDAYURE:**
- Melon

**SANTA CRUZ:**
- Goat farming

**TILARÁN:**
- Coffee

**LA CRUZ:**
- Beans and oranges

Source: CINDE, with data from the INEC Agricultural Census (2014), MAG (2011), and SEPSA (2021)

Note: Figures compiled by the respective chambers and production corporations, who in turn consult with the producers.
# Food Industry

The region is specialized in the industrial processing of food for human consumption such as beverage concentrates and juices, and animal feed such as fishmeal.

## Main exported products (2021):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Exports (USD million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other syrups and concentrates for the preparation of aerated beverages</td>
<td>543.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other compound preparations for the beverage industry</td>
<td>78.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>52.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit juice and concentrate</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal food</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Main export destinations (2021):

- **Guatemala**: USD 124.6 million
- **Honduras**: USD 95.8 million
- **México**: USD 78.4 million
- **Perú**: USD 69.3 million
- **Panama**: USD 56.6 million

31 products exported to 48 destinations.

*Exported value
Source: CINDE, based on data from PROCOMER, 2022*
Food industry
The region is a proven business partner in beverage production

Craft brewing with flavor profiles inspired by the climate, legends, gastronomy, and seasonal fruits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Solarium Business Park, Liberia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>+4 people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of capital</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production capacity</td>
<td>Beer is produced year-round in cans and siphons with seasonal flavors and local fruits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sales to the local market: hotels and main luxury resorts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coca-Cola
The most modern, technologically advanced and sustainable of the 18 Coca-Cola concentrate plants in the world

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Solarium Business Park, Liberia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>+130 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of capital</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- It produces concentrate for Coca-Cola and 89 other beverages that are exported to Central America, the Caribbean, Chile, and Mexico, among others.
- Soft drink concentrate and syrup is the country’s 4th most important export product
- They generate jobs in engineering, chemistry, microbiology, IT, and finance, and are linked to local activities such as the production of sugar, ethyl alcohol, cardboard boxes, pallets, etc.
Food industry
The region is a proven business partner in export-quality food production

Intensive production of melon and watermelon for the domestic and export market (Europe, Caribbean, and North America)

| Started  | 2016 |
| Location | Nicoya Peninsula |
| Size     | 0-50 people |
| Source of capital | Costa Rica |
| Production capacity | • Certifications from Global G.A.P., Tesco Nurture, Rainforest Alliance, Esencial Costa Rica, and Smeta Eti • 85% of melon is exported and 15% is sold locally |

Company dedicated to the processing of tilapia and its byproducts

| Started  | 1999 |
| Location | Cañas |
| Size     | 800 people. |
| Source of capital | Chile (AquaChile) and Costa Rica (Grupo Pelón) |
| Production capacity | • It processes 18,000 tons per year, exporting 95% of its production to the US market • Fish feed is 100% natural and based on cereals and their byproducts. |
NORTHERN PACIFIC

LIGHT MANUFACTURING AND BIO MANUFACTURING

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

CINDE
INVEST IN COSTA RICA

essential COSTA RICA
Light Manufacturing and biomanufacturing

The region main exports regarding this sector are in cement and products from wood related activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main exported products (2021):</th>
<th>Main export destinations (2021):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unpulverized cement</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20.9 millones</td>
<td>$24.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough wood</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15.1 million</td>
<td>$10.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other portland cement</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7.3 million</td>
<td>$5.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange essential oils</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.0 million</td>
<td>$4.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood sawn or ripped lengthwise, sliced or peeled</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.0 million</td>
<td>$1.9 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

37 products exported to 27 destinations

* Exported value

Source: CINDE, based on data from PROCOMER, 2022
Biomanufacturing

The Northern Pacific has experience in the manufacture of nutraceuticals from aloe vera

World leader in the extraction of “Acemannan”, active ingredient from aloe, and its application in pharmaceutical products and nutritional supplements

| Started | 2006 |
| Location | Liberia |
| Size | 155 people |
| Source of capital | Costa Rica |

- The only company worldwide capable of **extracting the active ingredient from the aloe vera plant, preserving its benefits for medical and nutritional applications**
- The **Company manually harvests the mature leaves from the farm and processes them**, ensuring that only fresh, hand-washed materials are used in a manual process, protecting the therapeutic properties of the plant
NORTHERN PACIFIC

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
Research & development
The Northern Pacific has proven experience in seed breeding and agritech processes

**JH BIOTECH**

**Generation of hybrid seeds of different varieties of watermelon, melon, pumpkin, and chili peppers**

- **Started**: 2019
- **Location**: Nandayure
- **Size**: +20 people.
- **Source of capital**: China
  - The laboratories perform molecular analysis processes for quality verification
  - Functions: research and development, quality control, and marketing and sales for product export and import

**BAYER**

**Research and production of new varieties of cotton seeds through the Seed Research and Development Station in Cañas**

- **Started**: 1997
- **Location**: Cañas
- **Size**: 37 permanent and 250 temporary employees
- **Source of capital**: Germany
  - Agricultural innovation and research center for the generation of new varieties of biotechnological cotton outside the growing season
  - 2020-2021: an export estimate of 48 tons of cotton seeds to the US
Research & development: aerospace industry and hydrogen generation

Ad Astra Rocket Company is the developer of the VASIMR® engine, an advanced plasma space propulsion system aimed at space transportation

| Started | 2005 |
| Location | Liberia |
| Size | 5-20 people |
| Source of capital | United States |

- Design, implementation and execution of electromechanical projects; electrical installations; installation of high- and low-pressure pipes for explosive and non-explosive gases
- R&D in physics, electromechanics and renewable energies: wind, solar, hydrogen cycle, and biomass

1st HYDROGEN GENERATION AND STORAGE PLANT IN CENTRAL AMERICA (3rd in LATAM) Led by Ad Astra Rocket

- 2013
  - May: Hydrogen and biogas power generator prototype in partnership with Cummins Inc. and EARTH University
  - December: First hydrogen generation and storage plant in partnership with RECOPE

- 2017
  - Pilot for the first hydrogen-powered bus

- 2019
  - USD 765,000 to strengthen Central America’s first green hydrogen ecosystem
  - Project partners include Cummins, Siemens, Toyota Motor Corp’s Toyota Mobility Foundation (TMF), and BidLab

- 2021
  - Launch of the “Hydrogen for the Sea” initiative in partnership with Sailcargo to demonstrate hydrogen applications in maritime transport (green hydrogen for cargo ships, zero emissions)
Research & development: aerospace industry and biomedical studies

- Started operations in April 2021, working together with LeoLabs radars located in Texas, New Zealand, and Alaska
- **People in charge:** Partnership between LeoLabs (Dr. Edward Lu, co-founder of LeoLabs) and Ad Astra (Franklin Chang Díaz), with support from other construction companies

**Main drivers:**
- Sustainable development and the space environment protection.
- Radars give information about where cleaning should be done.

**Country advantages:**
- Increased radar tracking coverage due to Costa Rica’s proximity to Ecuador
- Country’s commitment to Environmental Responsibility
- Opportunity to increase flight safety in space and enable responsible management to drive the mission of preserving critical ecosystems

Costa Rican Biomedical Research Agency dedicated to epidemiological research and high-quality clinical studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Investment $2.2 million**
- **Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) Laboratory Protocols** to develop specific tests to determine Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and SARS-CoV-2.
- **Impact on public health decisions:**
  - SARS-CoV-2 test expands the country’s abilities to perform confirmatory testing and research the COVID-19 disease
  - A population-based, case-control multicenter study to determine risk factors for breast cancer in young women, among others

Source: La República and PARABOLIC ARC, July 22, 2020, El Financiero, 2021
NORTHERN PACIFIC
CORPORATE SERVICES & DIGITAL TECNOLOGIES
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

invest with purpose
Corporate Services & Digital Technologies
Export of digital services and technologies and co-working spaces to attract digital nomads

World leader in customer service for over 40 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Source of capital</th>
<th>Production capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999 in Costa Rica</td>
<td>Solarium Business Park, Liberia</td>
<td>+5000 people in Costa Rica (+350 people in Liberia alone)</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>• Provides services to clients in the telecommunications, financial services and high-tech sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 in Liberia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outsourcing services in digital technology for the financial industry, social sciences, and education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Source of capital</th>
<th>Key facts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>+40 people.</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>• Based in Arizona, Encora acquired Avantica (a Costa Rican company) in January 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• +3500 people and 34 development centers worldwide for customer service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partner in strategic technology solutions providing digital transformation and software solutions services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Source of capital</th>
<th>Production capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>+20 people.</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>• The company operates 100% in telework modality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Main services: analytics, cloud applications, mobile, QA automation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coworking spaces:

- Solarium Work
- Selina
- Sand & Surf Co-working
- Loco Work

Solarium
Liberia
Nosara
Beach
Tamarindo
Beach
Sámarra
Beach
NORTHERN PACIFIC

TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
Tourism Infrastructure
Different natural attractions on the coast or the mountains diversify the regional tourism offering

NORTHERN SECTOR
Liberia and Santa Cruz articulated with five important tourism development centers:
- Papagayo, El Coco, Conchal, Tamarindo, Flamingo

SOUTHERN SECTOR
Nicoya and Sámara Development Center

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES
- Mud baths
- Rest and relaxation
- Enjoy luxurious retreat areas and exclusive resorts
- Caverns
- Diving
- Sport fishing
- Canopy

TOP SITES TO VISIT:
BEACH DESTINATIONS
- Tamarindo
- Sámara
- Nosara
- Guiones
- Ostional
- Prieta
- Conchal
- Santa Teresa

- Flamingo
- Langosta
- Hermosa
- Manzanillo
- Avellanas
- Danta
- El Coco

PARKS, MONUMENTS AND VOLCANOES
- Santa Rosa National Park
- Rincón de la Vieja National Park
- Las Horribles and Miravalles Volcano
- El Farallón Archaeological Monument
- Mines of Abangares

WATERFALLS AND CAVERNS
- Llanos del Cortez and La Leona Falls
- Barra Honda Caverns
Tourism Infrastructure

Proven experience with more than 400 tourist lodging establishments, including:
Tourism Infrastructure
Proven experience in beach hotels and luxury resorts

**EL MANGROOVE**
- Panama Beach, Gulf of Papagayo
- 85 rooms
- 29.4 km from Liberia
- Tourist certifications: 4.5 stars and Condé Nast Johansens Awards for Excellence, 5-leaf Certification for Sustainable Tourism

**FOUR SEASONS RESORT**
- Papagayo Peninsula
- 181 rooms
- 46.9 km from Liberia
- Tourist certifications: Forbes Travel Guide 5-Star Award Winner, Conde Nast Traveler - 2018 Gold List, Only resort in Central America, Wellness Travel Awards.

**ANDAZ COSTA RICA RESORT**
- Papagayo Peninsula
- 152 rooms
- 42.1 km from Liberia
- Tourist certifications: 5 stars, CST (Sustainable Tourism Certification), TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence
# Tourism Infrastructure

The region has 4 local airfields for domestic flights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Entries</th>
<th>Exits</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nosara Airdrome (Nicoya)</td>
<td>4,121</td>
<td>4,291</td>
<td>8,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamarindo Airdrome (Santa Cruz)</td>
<td>1,859</td>
<td>1,839</td>
<td>3,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islita Airdrome (Nandayure)</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicoya Airdrome (Nicoya)</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tourism Infrastructure

NICoya Blue ZONE

Nicoya is one of the only 5 blue zones in the world that have a high concentration of people one hundred years of age.

The areas that have a higher-than-normal concentration of centenarians:

- Nicoya, Guanacaste (Costa Rica)
- Okinawa (Japan)
- Sardinia (Italy)
- Icaria (Greece)
- Loma Linda, California (USA)

An ideal place to address and develop wellness and health trends.

Focus on sustainability, “superfoods”, culture, relaxation, and lifestyle.

Chanel developed a new anti-aging product, “Blue serum”, with ingredients including green coffee from the Nicoya Peninsula.

“Ultra-pure and ultra-powerful ingredient containing 70 times more active antioxidant molecules than those found in regular coffee beans”, CHANEL.

Watch the video: link

Demographics
Total population demographics

♀ 393,788 Total
♂ 195,643 Men
♀ 198,145 Women

Population per canton

Liberia 76,439
Nicoya 56,645
Cañas 32,666
Bagaces 24,025
Abangares 20,087
Hojancha 8,029
Santa Cruz 68,473
Carrillo 45,523
La Cruz 26,880
Tilarán 21,847
Nandayure 11,847

Age distribution

Source: CINDE, based on information from INEC, ENAHO 2020; 2021
Composition of the workforce

Economic sector

- Wholesale and retail commerce; automobile and motorcycle repair (2%)
- Food and lodging (2%)
- Agriculture, livestock, siliculture, fishing (1%)
- Education (1%)
- Households as employers
- Manufacturing industry
- Construction (12%)
- Administrative and support services (6%)
- Public administration and defense, social security plans with mandatory affiliation (6%)
- Human healthcare and social assistance activities (6%)
- Transportation and storage (7%)
- Professional, scientific and technical activities; arts, entertainment, and recreational; real estate; finance and insurance; others (12%)
- Supply of electricity, gas, vapor, and air conditioning (4%)
- Water supply, sanitation, waste management, and decontamination (4%)
- Information and communications
- Exploitation on mines and quarries

Workforce

- 155,071 Total
- 97,307 Men
- 57,767 Women

Economically active population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>31,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>27,942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicoya</td>
<td>24,599</td>
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<td>Carrillo</td>
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<td>Cañas</td>
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<td>La Cruz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tilarán</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bagaces</td>
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<td>Abangares</td>
<td>8,442</td>
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<td>Nandayure</td>
<td>5,086</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hojancha</td>
<td>3,535</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CINDE, based on information from INEC, ENAHO 2020
Educational opportunities

25 technical High Schools

- They offer more than 185 technical specialties in the Northern Pacific
- Some technical specialties were created with the support of CINDE and validated by the industry based on their needs:
  - Accounting
  - Software development
  - IT support
  - Networks
  - Logistics and distribution
  - Service center executive
  - Digital design and development
  - Cybersecurity

National Training Institute

- 6 head offices and offices in the region

High Schools

- 52 public schools located in 10 cantons
- 18 private schools located in 8 cantons

Source: MEP, 2021, INA, 2021
NOTE: you can find more details on educational opportunities by institution website
Universities academic offer

4 public universities

They teach over 90 majors, including:
- Natural sciences
- Management
- Engineering
- IT & Software

5 private universities

They teach over 40 majors, including:
- Management
- Engineering
- Health Science
- Accounting
- IT & Software

Source: MEP, 2021 - Public and private universities - NOTE: you can find more details on educational opportunities by institution in the Annexes
Its DNA is **renewable energy generation**

The only region in Costa Rica that generates electricity using 5 renewable sources: water, geothermal, wind, sun, and biomass

- The territory has 30 power generation plants and 15 substations

  Number of plants per generation source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wind</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geothermal</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomass</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- There is potential for R&D in clean technologies, thanks to its geography climate, topography, and volcanoes

- Main Suppliers ICE and COOPEGUANASCASTE

Source: 2019 Electricity Coverage Index, ICE Group
Electricity Generation Expansion Plan 2018-2034 Costa Rican Electricity Institute (ICE), May 2019

Wind farm, Tilarán

Miravalles Solar Park
A wealth of **natural wonders**
Along the Northern Pacific coast

- **Area:** 9,529 Km², with more than 700 km of coastline
- **Guanacaste Tourist Unit:** covers Costa Rica’s Pacific Coast from the border with Nicaragua to the mouth of the Bongo River in the Nicoya Peninsula
- **A variety of landscapes in this territory:** white sandy beaches, forests, savannas, mangroves, wetlands, and volcanoes
- **Natural and cultural heritage sites:** water, land, mountain, and coastal ecosystems
Guanacaste Conservation Area: **World Heritage Site**

It represents 2% of the national territory and 13% of the Province

- **About 235,000 species** (65% of Costa Rica’s total) live on 163,000 hectares

- **Protected animal species**: white-tailed deer, congo monkey, tapir, puma, jaguar

- **Protected areas**:
  - Santa Rosa National Park: it preserves the culture of Guanacaste haciendas and historical facts of the Battle of Santa Rosa in 1856
  - Guanacaste National Park
  - Rincón de la Vieja National Park
  - Horizontes Experimental Forest Research Station
  - Bahía Junquillal Wildlife Refuge

6 National Parks in the region:
- Rincón de la Vieja National Park
- Las Baulas National Marine Park
- Miravalles Volcano National Park
- Barra Honda National Park
- Santa Rosa National Park
- Tenorio Volcano National Park
BAHÍA JUNQUILLAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

- Located near the community of Cuajiniquil in La Cruz
- 7 different coastal ecosystems: The Rocky Zone, located at the end of sandy beaches, is an ecosystem characterized by tidal changes and an exposed rocky substrate where algae grow.
- It has an area of 505 hectares.
- Playa Junquillal: Located in the refuge, it is a white sand beach with a total length of 2 kilometers. Since it is in a bay, you can swim there safely. In addition, it has three stars in the Ecological Blue Flag category.

RINCÓN DE LA VIEJA NATIONAL PARK

- Rincón de la Vieja is approximately 15 miles (24 km) northeast from the city of Liberia.
- Its more than 34,000 acres include two volcanoes, 32 rivers and streams, and an incredible variety of flora and fauna.
- Different activities are available, such as hiking, horseback riding, enjoying hot springs, swimming, picnicking, and camping.
- The main water attractions in the park include a freshwater lagoon, waterfalls, hot springs, and boiling volcanic mud pots.
- The ancient Rincón de la Vieja volcano last erupted in 1983, and in 1991 there was a minor emission of ash and lava.

Source: SINAC data, 2020
National Parks

Palo Verde

- Part of the Tempisque Conservation Area.
- Composed mostly of tropical dry forest.
- The park protects vital floodplains, swamps, limestone ridges, and seasonal pools.
- Density and variety of bird species. The most regularly watched include chicks, scarlet macaws, white ibis, pink spatulas, anhingas, jabirus and wood storks.

Santa Rosa

- Part of the Guanacaste Conservation Area World Heritage Site.
- Location of historical and environmental importance.
- Remembrance of the Battle of Santa Rosa, won over the forces of filibuster William Walker.
- Ten characteristic natural habitats are found in the park, including savannas, deciduous forests, marshes, mangrove forests, with 250 species of bird and 115 of mammals.

Marino Las Baulas

- Part of the Tempisque Conservation Area.
- Largest nesting colony of leatherback turtles on the Pacific coast of the Americas.
- More than half of the park is underwater and protected, but recreational activities such as diving.
- Home to approximately 174 species of birds and many other animals.

Source: CINDE, based on information from SINAC and govisitCosta Rica, 2020
Celeste River

- It is part of the Tenorio Volcano National Park and is recognized for its turquoise color
- It gets its name from the color of its waters, the product of the chemical reactions of two rivers that intersect in its flow, the Buena Vista and Quebrada Agria
- Access: 1.5 km walk into the park
  - Allows you to reach the Rio Celeste Waterfall
  - Inside the park there is also a natural hot springs pool, a lagoon of the same color, and a thick forest
Thank you!

Learn more about investing in the North Pacific Region

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